

REMARKS

Referencing the Office Action, Applicants appreciate the allowance of Claims 7-14 and 16-19.

Page 1 of the specification has been amended to no longer reference this application as a continuation-in-part of the related application listed therein. The attached Supplemental Application Data Sheet also indicates that there is no claim for domestic priority. Thus, please amend USPTO records to remove the priority claim.

Turning to the claims, the rejection of Claims 1-6 and 15 under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite has been considered.

Claims 1 and 15 have been amended to more clearly recite that the parallel uprights and the exterior sidewall of each sidewall structure define a one-piece monolithic structure. The phrase "fixed to" has been deleted from Claims 1 and 15, along with the term "integral". Thus, the amended claims more clearly recite that the exterior sidewall and uprights of the sidewall structures are a monolithic, one-piece structure.

Claim 3 is believed proper in its current form as the claimed positional arrangement is illustrated in Applicants' Figure 16.

For the above reasons, Applicants' Claims 1-6 and 15 are believed definite and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, is respectfully requested.

The rejection of Claims 1-6, 15 and 20-24 under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Liebertz, U.S. Patent No. 5 775 786 has been considered.

Liebertz discloses an upright multiple drawer storage cabinet 11 having right and left upright sidewalls 12-13, back wall 14, top wall 15 and bottom wall 16. The walls are fixedly joined to form the cabinet, for example by welding. A front access opening 17 is provided to receive slidable drawers 21.

Each of the right and left sidewalls 12-13 receive a pair of front and rear vertically elongate mounting rails 31-34 for

receiving drawer slides. The mounting rails 31-34 are secured to the sidewalls 12-13, for example by welding as set forth at column 4, lines 53-56 of Liebertz. The mounting rails 31-34 have a plurality of support openings 42 and slots 47 formed therein to mount different size drawers.

Applicants' Claim 1 recites "each said sidewall structure, including the exterior sidewall and the respective uprights, being a monolithic, one-piece structure formed from a single flat metal sheet". This structure differs entirely from Liebertz, wherein the separate vertically elongate mounting rails 31-34 are attached to the respective sidewalls, for example by welding.

For the above reasons, independent Claim 1, and Claims 2-6 dependent therefrom, are believed allowable over Liebertz.

Applicants' independent Claim 15 recites "each said sidewall structure, including the exterior sidewall and the respective uprights, being a monolithic, one-piece structure formed from a single flat metal sheet". This structure differs entirely from Liebertz. As discussed above, the mounting rails 31-34 of Liebertz are separate elements that are attached to the sidewalls, for example by welding. Further, there is no disclosure or motivation to form the sidewalls and the rails of Liebertz from a single flat metal sheet.

For the above reasons, Claim 15 is believed allowable over Liebertz.

Independent Claim 20 recites a process for forming a housing including the steps of providing an enlarged flat metal sheet, forming a series of openings through each of the side sheet portions, forming each of the opposite side sheet portions of the flat sheet into a channel shaped part, folding each of the side sheet portions relative to the center sheet portion so that the respective channel shaped parts directly overlie at least a section of the center sheet portion, and "fixing each said center sheet part at an inner surface of said center sheet portion to define a monolithic one-piece

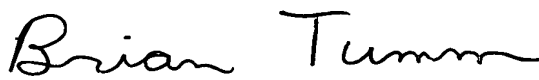
sidewall structure defined by said flat center sheet portion having said channel shaped parts at the inner surface thereof and extending lengthwise therealong adjacent opposite edges". As discussed above, Liebertz discloses utilizing separate elements, namely rails 31-34 which are attached to the sidewalls. Therefore Claim 20 is believed allowable over Liebertz.

Claims 21-24 are believed allowable for the reasons set forth with respect to Claim 20.

The Office Action does not indicate the status of Claim 25, which depends from parent Claim 1. Applicants believe Claim 25 is allowable, and allowance thereof is respectfully requested.

Reconsideration of this application, and allowance of Claims 1-25 is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Encl: Supplemental Application Data Sheet  
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136.07/05